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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/527,140	03/16/2000	Harald Berger	P00,0458	2029
21171	7590	12/13/2004	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			JAGANNATHAN, MELANIE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2666	

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/527,140

Applicant(s)

BERGER ET AL.

Examiner

Melanie Jagannathan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Martensson et al. US 6,349,212.

Regarding claim 7, the claimed method for connecting subscribers terminal devices in parallel comprising establishing a physical connection separately from a logical connection which is established by acquiring a complex telecommunication performance feature as a functional message, converting the functional message into logical message, acquiring a parallel connection configuration, transmitting logical message to a terminal equipment process unit is disclosed by DECT system with PBX (Figure 1, element 1) connected to portable handsets and when call is initiated by handset a signal is generated requesting communication link be opened and microprocessor of PBX detects request and PBX establishes communication link with the particular handset on a unique channel allocation and separately handset user has option during the stages of making of calls with its own display to use scroll keys to select telephone services such as transfer numbers or retrieve numbers using associated PBX memory (element 15). When a menu option is selected and confirmed by actuation of key on handset an appropriate instruction will be generated by the handset under the control of a local microprocessor and

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relayed to PBX for lookup in memory. See column 3, lines 41-67, column 5, lines 6, column 6, and lines 5-59.

Regarding claim 8, the claimed interpreting the logical message as either a local or external telecommunications performance feature, transmitting the logical message to either an internal or external performance feature implementation unit, dependent on interpreting of logical message and implementing feature is disclosed by handset user has option during the stages of making of calls with its own display to use scroll keys to select telephone services such as transfer numbers or retrieve numbers using associated PBX memory (element 15). When a menu option is selected and confirmed by actuation of key on handset an appropriate instruction will be generated by the handset under the control of a local microprocessor and relayed to PBX for lookup in memory. See column 6, lines 5-59.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

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invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martensson et al. US 6,349,212 in view of Weis et al. US 5,544,226.

Regarding claim 9, Martensson et al. discloses all of the limitations except for establishing of physical and logical connection of the subscriber terminal devices is hierarchically ordered. Weis et al. disclose PABX connecting a number of wired terminals and including base stations connecting to a number of cordless terminals where a central control unit PABX-CPU provides call handling and service feature control in private branch exchange and a mobile-CPU control unit, subordinate to central control unit, for processing call setup of cordless terminals. See column 2, lines 56-67, column 3, and lines 1-8. At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Martensson et al. to implement hierarchy in terms of the subscriber terminal devices. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to do this for flow control as master devices have priority over slave devices.

Regarding claims 10-12, Martensson discloses all of the limitations of the claims except for master subscriber control unit controlling a principal subscriber terminal device and subsidiary subscriber control unit controlling a subsidiary subscriber terminal. Weis et al. disclose PABX connecting a number of wired terminals and including base stations connecting to a number of cordless terminals where a central control unit PABX-CPU provides call handling and service feature control in private branch exchange and a mobile-CPU control unit which is subordinate to central control unit for processing call setup of cordless terminals. See column 2,

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lines 56-67, column 3, and lines 1-8. At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify PBX system of Martensson with PABX-CPU and subordinate mobile-CPU of Weis et al. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to do this to integrate a mobile part with a private branch exchange and incorporate ISDN and DECT protocols. See column 1, lines 30-67, column 2, and lines 1-9.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-5 are allowed. Prior art of record, in single or in combination, does not disclose switching device with plug-in module, control unit having central control unit for controlling central switching events in switching device, peripheral control unit for controlling linking of subscriber interfaces to subscriber terminal devices, peripheral control unit having an interface driver controlling at least two subscriber interfaces, interface driver having a master subscriber control unit for controlling a principal subscriber terminal device, at least one subsidiary subscriber control unit for controlling at least one subsidiary subscriber terminal device, a central driver control unit for central controlling of administration events in interface driver, a first connection device physically connecting master subscriber control unit and one subsidiary subscriber control unit and a second connection device logically connecting master subscriber control unit to at least one subsidiary subscriber control unit separately from first connection device.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 7-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melanie Jagannathan whose telephone number is 571-272-3163. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema S. Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3163.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Melanie Jagannathan
Patent Examiner
AU 2666

MJ



FRANK DUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER